

PROVIDENCE BULLETIN (R.I.)
5 January 1979

Replies to query

CIA chief mum about ties to Brown

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Central Intelligence Agency director Stansfield Turner refuses to affirm or deny that any relationship has existed between the agency and individuals associated with Brown University.

Information about possible ties between Brown and the CIA was requested by Brown president Howard R. Swearer in November after former Brown president Barnaby C. Keeney admitted he worked with the CIA during his term of office.

In a three-page letter to Swearer last month and released without comment by Swearer today, Turner said:

"Insofar as past or present individual relationships with the Brown community are concerned, I must adhere to the position of neither affirming nor denying their existence."

Turner added, however, that a review of several thousand internal documents "showed no indication that 'MKULTRA-related research was ever conducted either at Brown or by any individual affiliated with the university.'"

Project MKULTRA was conducted in the 1950's and 1960's and involved research into methods of altering human behavior patterns.

According to earlier reports Keeney had served as chairman of the "Human Ecology Fund," which was part of MKULTRA.

NEWS OF the Keeney-CIA connection first was reported in October by *New Times* magazine, which described the Human Ecology Fund as "one of several dummy foundations which, over a 20-year period, the (CIA) secret-

ly used to channel millions of dollars into mind control research, including LSD testing on human subjects."

Confronted with the *New Times* article, Keeney admitted he had worked for CIA while he was president of Brown but refused to characterize the nature of the work he did for the agency.

AFTER KEENEY admitted to the connection, Swearer wrote to Turner, noting that the disclosure heightened concern on the campus about the extent of CIA activities at the university. Swearer said there was a compelling need to clarify the situation.

Turner said such a disclosure would violate the rights of individuals and would deprive the government of securing again their valuable services and otherwise unavailable expertise.

Turner said the agency would not object if

those involved decided to disclose their relationships with the CIA. The director said he was unable to offer an answer that would be "satisfactory" to Swearer but he defended his position:

"If I assured you, on the one hand, that there are no current relationships between the CIA and any member of the Brown community, I should have to add that the same might not be true in the future.

"On the other hand, even if I were to advise you that there have been such relationships, I simply could not reveal what they are or who has been involved.

"Furthermore," Turner added, "if my answer became generally known, it could have the potential effect of inspiring unfair suspicions, recriminations and even possible 'witch hunts' such as your school would certainly not wish to experience."